

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of	) Attorney Docket No.: <b>ASAIN0164</b>
Tomonobu HATA et al.	) Confirmation No.: Unassigned
Serial No.: Unassigned	) Group Art Unit: Unassigned
Filed: June 10, 2005	) Examiner: Unassigned
For: GRADIENT STRUCTURE MATERIAL	)
AND FUNCTIONAL ELEMENT	)
USING THE SAME	) Date: June 10, 2005

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

**MAIL STOP PCT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, this Information Disclosure Statement in connection with the above-identified application is being filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b):

- ☐ within three months of the filing date of this application (not a C.P.A.);
- ☐ within three months of the date of entry of the National Stage;
- ☐ before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits; or
- ☐ before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits of, after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under §1.114.

A copy of each non-U.S. document identified on the attached Forms PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B is attached, however, in accordance with Official Gazette Notice dated August 5, 2003, copies of the U.S. patents and patent application publications are not attached.

Attorney Dkt. No. ASAIN0164  
Serial No. Unknown


Attached is a copy of the Search Report issued in the corresponding International application. Since all of the documents cited herein were cited in said Search Report, it is believed that the relevancy of each document cited is clear from the Search Report. Accordingly, no further comment with regard to the disclosures of these documents is believed to be required.

It is respectfully requested that the attached documents be considered and officially cited, and that the Examiner initial a copy of Forms PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B, and return them to the undersigned to indicate that the documents have been considered.

It is believed that the present Information Disclosure Statement complies with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97-8, but should the filing of this paper necessitate a fee, the Director is hereby authorized to charge the necessary fee to Deposit Account No. 50-1281.

Respectfully submitted,

*GRIFFIN & SZIPL, PC*

  
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Joerg-Uwe Szimpl  
Registration No. 31,799

GRIFFIN & SZIPL, PC  
Suite PH-1  
2300 Ninth Street, South  
Arlington, VA 22204

Telephone: (703) 979-5700  
Facsimile: (703) 979-7429  
E-mail: g&s@szimpl.com  
Customer No.: 24203

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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

Complete if known  
10/538776

Application Number	10.1.9.999
Filing Date	June 10, 2005
First Named Inventor	Tomonobu HATA et al.
Art Unit	Unknown
Examiner Name	Unknown
Attorney Docket Number	ASAIN0164

Sheet	1	of	3
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## U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> *Number <sup>4</sup> *Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY			
	B	EP 1 083 610 A1	03-14-2001	Sumitomo Spec.		
	C	JP 2000-299504 A	10-24-2000	Sharp Corp.		✓
	D	JP 10-229224	08-25-1998	Central Res.		✓
	E	JP 2000-101151	04-07-2000	Sanyo Electric		✓
	F	JP 10-209508	08-07-1998	Toshiba Corp.		✓
	G	JP 04-101471	04-02-1992	Komatsu Elec.		✓

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

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## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

**Complete if Known**

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First Named Inventor	Tomonobu HATA et al.
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Art Unit	Unknown
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Examiner Name	Unknown
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Attorney Docket Number	ASAIN0164
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Sheet	2	of	3
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		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY			
	H	EP 0 967 293 A2	12-29-1999	K. Ishida		
	I	JP 11-340141	12-10-1999	Sumitomo Metal		✓
	J	JP 2001-007409	01-12-2001	Daikin Ind.		✓

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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Filing Date

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**First Named Inventor**

Tomonobu HATA et al.

Art Unit

Unknown

**Examiner Name**

Unknown

Attorney Docket Number

ASAIN0164

Sheet 3

3

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3

## NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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